

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/698,337

Examiner

James Sells

Applicant(s)

HICKMAN ET AL.

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6,9-13 and 16-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings filed October 31, 2003 are acceptable.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. James Durlacher (28,840) on November 14, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A welding tip comprising:
a cylindrical body, said cylindrical body having an opening at a first end defined by a heatable perimeter having an inner edge and an outer edge;
said perimeter including a plurality of knurls, wherein said knurls provide varying high and low temperature points in said perimeter, wherein said knurls extend outwardly from said inner edge to said outer edge and [are offset from a radial position] are configured to extend angularly in a non-radial direction.

9. (currently amended) A welding tip comprising:

a cylindrical body, said cylindrical body having an opening at a first end defined by a heatable tapered perimeter having an inner edge and an outer edge;

said perimeter including a plurality of knurls, wherein said knurls provide varying high and low temperature points in the perimeter to provide a controlled melt weld, wherein said knurls extend outwardly from said inner edge to said outer edge and [are offset from a radial position] are configured to extend angularly in a non-radial direction.

16. (currently amended) A welding tip comprising:

a cylindrical body, said cylindrical body having an opening at a first end defined by a heatable tapered perimeter, wherein an inner portion of said tapered perimeter extends outwardly further than an outer portion;

said perimeter including a plurality of knurls, said knurls extending outwardly from an inner edge of said tapered perimeter adjacent to said opening to an outer edge of said perimeter and [are offset from a radial position] are configured to extend angularly in a non-radial direction, wherein said knurls create varying high and low temperature points in the perimeter to provide a controlled melt weld.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

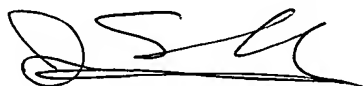
In a welding tip comprising a cylindrical body, said cylindrical body having an opening at a first end defined by a heatable perimeter having an inner edge and an outer edge, the prior art does not teach or make obvious the concept of the perimeter including a plurality of knurls, wherein said knurls provide varying high and low temperature points in said perimeter, wherein said knurls extend outwardly from said inner edge to said outer edge and are configured to extend angularly in a non-radial direction in the manner claimed by the applicant.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Telephone/Fax

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Sells whose telephone number is (571) 272-1237. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 9:30 AM and 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Fiorilla can be reached at (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.



**JAMES SELLS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECH. CENTER 1700**